

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-04 ARA-06 EA-06 NEA-06 RSC-01

OES-02 H-01 L-02 OIC-02 AEC-05 SP-02 AID-05 EB-04

NSC-05 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-01 OMB-01 CEA-01

AGR-05 COME-00 SWF-01 /099 W
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R 110940Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8045

INFO USMISSION USUN

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, UNWFC

SUBJECT: WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE - COMMITTEE TWO MEETINGS,
NOVEMBER 9.

1. COMMITTEE TWO. SPEAKING FIRST, EC REP PROPOSED SUBSTITUTING FOR OPERATIONAL PARA TWO OF RESOLUTION SEVEN TEXT REPORTED ROME 15569. HE RATIONALIZED AMENDMENT AS PROVIDING MORE EXPLICITLY FOR PROMPT ACTION ON RESERVES. JAPAN FOLLOWED WITH STATEMENT SUGGESTING FAVORABLE SHIFT IN POLICY ON RESERVES (REPORTED SEPARATELY) AND SUPPORTING EC AMENDMENT. COUNTERING CONTINUING STATEMENTS BY LDCS FAVORING FURTHER AMENDMENT OF DRAFT UNDERTAKING TO THEIR ADVANTAGE, BOTH FRANCE AND UK NOTED UNDERSTANDING FOR LDC OBJECTIVES BUT AGRUED THAT EFFORTS TO AMENDMENT CAREFULLY WORKED-OUT TEXT COULD UPSET AGREEMENT REACHED SO FAR. SOVIET DEL MADE GENERAL REMARKS WHICH DO NOT COMMIT USSR ON UNDERTAKING OR ON RESERVES ISSUE. AUSTRALIA VIGOROUSLY SUPPORTED UNDERTAKING -- AFTER HAVING OPENLY ACKNOWLEDGED IN GROUB B THAT IT DID NOT VIEW IT AS LIKELY TO HAVE ANY PRACTICAL EFFECT -- AND ALSO

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STRONGLY ENDORSED CONCEPT OF LIMITED MEMBERSHIP RESERVES

COORDINATING GROUP WITHOUT NAMING IT EXPLICITLY.

2. US MADE STATEMENT NOTING IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO EFFECTIVE GRAIN RESERVE ARRANGEMENTS REFERRING TO EMPHASIS GIVEN THIS VIEW IN SPEECHES BY SECRETARIES KISSINGER AND BUTZ, US DEL STRESSED NEED FOR PROMPT BEGINNING BY RESERVES COORDINATING GROUP ON IMPLEMENTATION OF RESERVES SCHEME. ALSO NOTED US PREFERENCE FOR PRESENT TEXT OF OPERATIVE PARA TWO, BUT STATED US WOULD NOT OBJECT TO AMENDMENT INTRODUCED BY EC.

3. DISCUSSION OF RESOLUTION NINE ON FOOD AID BEGAN WITH OPENING OF AFTERNOON SESSION. FRANCE ANNOUNCED THAT IT WOULD PURSUE ITS RESOLUTION ON "ORGANIZATION (PLANNING) OF EMERGENCY RELIEF AND FOOD AID," DESPITE MORE COMPREHENSIVE RESOLUTION ON THIS SUBJECT ADOPTED BY UNGA. SWEDEN ALSO PROPOSED AMENDING FRENCH DRAFT TO SPECIFY NEED FOR ADVANCE PLANNING FOR EMERGENCY TRANSPORT. SRI LANKA AND MEXICO, IN DIFFERENT WAYS, CALLED FOR CHANELLING MORE FOOD AID MULTILATERALLY.

4. FOLLOWING REGULAR 6 PM CONCLUSION OF FULL COMMITTEE SESSION, CONTACT GROUP OF ABOUT TWENTY INTERESTED DELEGATES MET TO REVIEW WFC SECRETARIAT REDRAFT OF RESOLUTION SIX, BASED UPON STATEMENTS MADE ON COMMITTEE FLOOR. RESOLUTION SIX (FOOD INFORMATION SYSTEM) IS WIDELY REGARDED AS LEAST CONTROVERSIAL OF ALL WFC DRAFT RESOLUTIONS, BUT CONTACT GROUP ADJOURNED AFTER HOUR AND QUARTER WITHOUT REACHING AGREEMENT ON TITLE FOR RESOLUTION DUE TO CUBAN INSISTENCE TITLE COVER SOMEWHAT MORE DETAIL THAN RESOLUTION. VOLPE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ROME15596
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740324-0193
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741154/aaaabtjh.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 APR 2002 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <08-Aug-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE - COMMITTEE TWO MEETINGS, NOVEMBER 9.
TAGS: OCON
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005